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ABSTRACT

This book is designed to help clinicians and teachers work more effectively with people with learning disabilities and their families. Chapter 1 provides an overview of learning disabilities. It presents commonly accepted medical and educational definitions, prevalence figures, and possible etiological explanations for various disorders. Chapter 2 examines social and emotional aspects of learning disabilities, including self-esteem issues, social relationships, behavior problems, emotional problems, resilience difficulties, and problems of adults with learning disabilities. Chapter 3 outlines different types of communication disorders, discusses the incidence of specific types, and provides a checklist to help identify hearing, speech, or language disorders. The following chapter focuses on dyslexia and includes criteria for instruction. Chapter 5 describes characteristics of students with dysgraphia and the developmental stages for handwriting, spelling, and written composition. Chapter 6 discusses dyscalculia and attention deficit disorders are addressed in chapter 7. The three types of attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders are described. Chapters 2 through 7 include intervention strategies for the specific disability, as well as screening checklists. The last chapter discusses management and intervention issues for students with learning disabilities. It provides information on using a team approach, student rights, intervention models, academic adaptations, and the parent role. (Chapters include references.) (CR)

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